¶ By the King.

¶ A Proclamation commanding the repaire of Noblemen, Knights, and Gentlemen of qualitie, vnto their Manſion houſes in the Countrey, there to attend their ſeruices, and keepe Hoſpitalitie.

THe Kings moſt Excellent Maieſtie, taking into his Royall conſideration the preſent ſtate of the times, together with the great decay of Hoſpitality & good houſe-keeping, which in former ages was the honour of this Nation, the too frequent reſort, and ordinary reſidence of Lords Spirituall and Temporall, Knights and Gentlemen of quality, vnto Cities and Townes, eſpecially into, or neere about the Cities of London and Weſtminſter, and the manifold inconueniences which enſue by the abſence of ſo many perſons of quality and authority from their Countreys, whereby thoſe parts are left deſtitute both of reliefe and gouernement, and the Cities and Townes, eſpecially thoſe of London and Weſtminſter, are ouerburthened with Inhabitants and Reſiants, hath thought fit hereby to renew the courſe formerly begun by his deare Father of bleſſed memorie, and to publiſh and declare, and Hee doth hereby publiſh and declare His Royall will and pleaſure to bee, and doeth by theſe preſents ſtraitly charge and command, aſwell His Lords Spirituall and Temporall, as alſo all deputy Lieutenants, Juſtices of the Peace, & Gentlemen of qualitie, who haue Manſion houſes in the Countrey, wherein they and their families haue vſually dwelt, (except ſuch as are of his Highnes Priuie Counſell, or beare Office about the Perſons or Courts of Himſelfe, or of his deareſt Conſort the Queene) that they and euery of them, immediatly vpon the end of this preſent moneth of Nouember, depart from the Cities of London and Weſtminſter, and other Cities and places, with their families and ſeruants, vnto their ſeuerall Countreys to attend their Seruice there, and to keepe Hoſpitality, as appertaineth to their degree and calling, and that they, nor any of them, make their abode in any other Cities or Townes, where they ſhall liue priuately, but reſort to their Countrey houſes & ordinary places of habitation, and there obſerue theſe directions, vpon paine, not onely of his Maieſties moſt heauy indignation and diſpleaſure, and diſablement to hold any ſuch places of truſt vnder his Maieſtie, but alſo of ſuch further cenſure and puniſhment, as may be inflicted vpon them for their diſobedience, and contempt or neglect of this his Royal Commandement, wherof, as his Maieſtie intendeth to take a ſtrict and ſeuere account; So He doeth hereby require and command, aſwell the Lords, and others of his Priuie Counſell, as alſo his Attourney generall, and all other his Officers and Miniſters, whom it ſhall any way concerne, to take order, that all ſuch as ſhall offend, may receiue condigne puniſhment, without toleration or connuencie.

Giuen at Our Court at White-Hall the eight and twentieth day of Nouember, in the third yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God ſaue the King.

¶ Imprinted at London by BONHAM NORTON and IOHN BILL, Printers to the Kings moſt Excellent MAIESTIE. M. DC. XXVII.

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